

## UPPER MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Members and friends of the Upper Milford Historical Society can look forward to a line up of interesting programs in 2016. There are varied topics of historical interest featuring presentations by our own members as well as programs by known authorities that promote the society's mission – "to preserve, research, and educate about the culture and traditions of the Township."

On March 31 David Venditta of the Morning Call and author of *War Stories in Their Own Words* will share some of the interviews and stories he has collected. Veterans and those from Upper Milford with military experiences to relate are encouraged to attend and add to the discussion.

For April 28 barn historian and preservationist, Jeffrey Marshall, will talk about barn preservation and land conservancy. With well over 120 barns photographed by the Historical Society in our predominately rural Township, we know this topic is very appropriate for residents of Upper Milford.

May 26 brings our own Township Manager Dan DeLong in a different roll. Dan has been a participant since 2029 in guiding school students around the wondrous sense and outdoor experiences in Alaska. Don't miss his photo journey of these adventures.

Member Frank Willis is a talented and award winning powder horn and bag artisan who has researched a ton of information about early life on the frontier. He also reenacts that rugged frontier lifestyle periodically. On June 30 Frank will talk about the historical aspects of and techniques employed by the early craftsmen.

With long daylight hours and hot weather, our annual outdoor picnic event is set for July 28 at Jasper Park. Everyone contributes a covered dish. Therefore, we all over indulge from all the picnic goodies. Then Bob Thomas and John Fegley help us recover by reminding us of the huge historical significance of the Lenape people as represented by the jasper pits in the park. The more adventurous members may even walk to visit the pits.

On August 25 Simonee deFuccio-Marhefka will give us a look at the life and times of *Uncle Jerry Roth: Father of the Great Allentown Fair*- just in time for the annual fair to take place! Simonee authored this historical book that includes her family connections to the fair's founder.

In the fall when the essence of Lenape roots in Upper Milford surrounds us, on September 29 we are excited and privileged to have Shelly DePaul, who serves as Chief on the Council of the Lenape Nation, give a very personal accounting of

Lenape history in Pennsylvania – not possible by reading a textbook. Don't miss Shelly's time with us!

We complete 2016 on October 27 with our customary Pennsylvania Dutch program. Who do you get to present a program about Pennsylvania Dutch culture? Of course Patrick Donmoyer, head of the Pennsylvania German Cultural Center in Kutztown! From his deep PA Dutch expertise, this year Patrick will talk about barn stars, which are not the same as hex signs. Another program not to miss!

You won't miss any of these programs if you set aside the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Township Building for the Upper Milford Historical Society meeting.

Roselyn Parry, Secretary